



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re

U.S. application of:

Akira TSUBOUCHI, Kiyoshi OKUBO, and Yasushi  
WATANABE

For:

HOLLOW RACK SHAFT AND  
MANUFACTURING METHOD THEREOF

U.S. Serial No.:

09/994,526

Confirmation No.:

8523

Filed:

November 27, 2001

Group Art Unit:

3683

Examiner:

Kramer, Devon C.

**BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT**Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: **BOX-NON-FEE AMENDMENT, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231**, on

March 7, 2003

Date of Deposit

Brian E. Harris

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered  
Representative

Signature

March 7, 2003

Date of Signature

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action, dated February 10, 2003, which provides for a response period ending March 12, 2003.